News release

New Chief Executive for the Met Office

6 May 2004

Dr David Rogers was today announced as the new Chief Executive of the Met Office where he will succeed Peter Ewins who retires at the end of June.

Following the approval of the Prime Minister, the Permanent Secretary at the MOD, Sir Kevin Tebbit today announced that Dr Rogers was to be the next CE of the Met Office.

Dr Rogers, who is currently Vice President, Meteorological and Oceanographic Services at Science Applications International Corporation in Virginia, USA, said: "I have been fortunate to maintain close working links with the Met Office over the past 25 years. In my view, the Met Office is the best Meteorological Service in the world and I am very proud to have been given the opportunity to lead it."

The Met Office is the acknowledged world leader in weather forecasting and the benchmark for national met. services in Europe as well as being a well-known national institution in the UK. It provides a wide range of weather related services to a broad customer base including: the armed forces; government departments; a variety of commercial customers; civil aviation and the general public. It undertakes global meteorological modelling and the Hadley Centre for Climatic Prediction and Research remains at the forefront of world climatic change modelling.

The Met Office plays an important and leading role in the international exchange of meteorological data on which all modern weather services depend. International collaboration is carried out through membership of international organisations such as, the UN World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and the European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (ECMWF), and participation in meteorological satellite programmes, particularly within the European Meteorological Satellite Organisation (EUMETSAT).

During 2003 the Met Office successfully moved its Headquarters and Operations Centre from Bracknell to a new purpose built, state of the art, building in Exeter in one of the largest and most complex relocation projects in recent years.

The Met Office currently employs some 1,900 staff, of which over half are based in Exeter and the rest at locations in the UK and military bases overseas. It has an annual turnover of around £160M.

Dr Rogers' biography

Questions and answers

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